

Minutes of the Bremer County Conference Board
February 20, 2024, 4:30 p.m.
1st Floor Meeting Room - Bremer County Courthouse

The Bremer County Conference Board met on the 20th day of February, 2024, in the multi-purpose room of the Bremer County Courthouse in Waverly, IA.

Vice Chairman Dewey Hildebrandt called the meeting to order @ 4:30pm.

Roll Call of members present:

Board of Education

Denver CSD, Scott Krebsbach

Janesville CSD, Tracy Meyer

Board of Supervisors

District 1, Ken Kammeyer

District 3, Dewey Hildebrandt

Mayors

Denver, Rodney Diercks

Frederika, Duane Meihost

Plainfield, Tom Geise

Readlyn, Dan Wedemeier

Sumner, Brian Bockhaus

Tripoli, Daniel Kalkbrenner

Waverly, Mark Anderson

Also present: - Bremer County Assessor Staff: Aaron Betts, Jill Eckenrod, Heather Moe and Thomas Bovy.

It is determined a quorum was established.

Hildebrandt asked for motion to approve the agenda.

Motion By: Kammeyer to approve agenda.

Second: Geise

All ayes, Motion carried.

Hildebrandt asked for a motion to approve the minutes of January 31, 2024 Conference Board meeting.

Motion By: Anderson to approve minutes.

Second: Wedemeier

No further discussion.

All ayes, Motion carried.

Hildebrandt asked if there was any old business. None presented.

Hildebrandt asked if there was any public comment. None presented.

Hildebrandt asked Betts for proof of publication. Betts presented Public Notice publications in the Waverly Democrat February 6th, Denver Forum and Tripoli Leader February 7th and Sumner Gazette February 8th.

Hildebrandt asked to Open Public Hearing for FYE 2025 Budget.

Motion By: Geise to open public hearing

Second: Anderson

All ayes, Motion carried.

No members from the public present. Conference Board members present and Betts received no comments from the public on FYE 2025 Budget.

Hildebrandt asked to Close Public Hearing for FYE 2025 Budget.

Motion By: Kammeyer to close public hearing.

Second: Wedemeier

All ayes, Motion carried.

Hildebrandt asked for discussion / approval of FYE 2025 Proposed Budget.

Geise asked if any changes since last meeting. Betts stated only change was moving additional funds for bi-yearly aerial flights from assessment expense fund as approved at last meeting. There was no change to tax asking or levy rate.

Motion By: Krebsbach to approve FYE 2025 budget.

Second: Kammeyer

Discussion among units.

Roll call vote was taken as follows with members present and the motion passed unanimously.

Board of Education

Denver CSD, Krebsbach

Aye

Janesville CSD, Tracy Meyer

Aye

Board of Education vote

Aye

Board of Supervisors

District 1, Kammeyer

Aye

District 3, Hildebrandt

Aye

Board of Supervisors vote

Aye

Mayors		
Denver, Rodney Diercks	Aye	
Frederika, Duane Meihost	Aye	
Plainfield, Tom Geise	Aye	
Readlyn, Dan Wedemeier	Aye	
Sumner, Brian Bockhaus	Aye	
Tripoli, Daniel Kalkbrenner	Aye	
Waverly, Mark Anderson	Aye	
Mayors vote		Aye

Hildebrandt asked Betts to address approval of number of deputies. Betts discussed the need for the Conference Board to approve the number of deputy assessor's the office can have per Iowa Code 441.10. Prior, Bremer County Assessor Office was approved for two deputies. Betts requested approval of two deputies since this has not been addressed since Betts' appointment in 2022. Hildebrandt asked on benefits of two deputies and if there was a salary percentage tied to 2nd deputy and assessor salary. Betts stated having two deputies strengthens the office, 2nd deputy has more discretion on decisions, and hopes to stabilize the office in the future. The office has invested expenses and training in employees and would benefit from retaining them. Per salary steps, 2nd deputy starts out at 60% of assessor salary with further advancement with education and experience. In the past, chief deputy was 85% and 2nd deputy was 75% of assessor salary.

Motion By: Geise motion to approve two deputies for Bremer County Assessor's Office

Second: Anderson

Discussion among units.

Roll call vote was taken as follows with members present and the motion passed unanimously.

Board of Education		
Denver CSD, Krebsbach	Aye	
Janesville CSD, Tracy Meyer	Aye	
Board of Education vote		Aye

Board of Supervisors		
District 1, Kammeyer	Aye	
District 3, Hildebrandt	Aye	
Board of Supervisors vote		Aye

Mayors		
Denver, Rodney Diercks	Aye	
Frederika, Duane Meihost	Aye	
Plainfield, Tom Geise	Aye	
Readlyn, Dan Wedemeier	Aye	
Sumner, Brian Bockhaus	Aye	
Tripoli, Daniel Kalkbrenner	Aye	
Waverly, Mark Anderson	Aye	
Mayors vote		Aye

Hildebrandt asked Betts to address Examining Board member appointment discussed at last meeting. Betts gave overview of Examining Board duties. Staggered terms are set with each faction of the Conference Board having a representative. The Mayor's representative, Jean Keller's, appointment has expired. Betts reached out to Keller and she is willing to serve a six-year term.

Motion By: Wedemeier to appoint Jean Keller to six-year term to Examining Board.

Second: Diercks

All ayes

Motion carried.

Hildebrandt asked Betts to discuss approval of outside counsel. Betts discussed use of outside counsel by Board of Review, which is addressed in Iowa Code 441.41 and Administrative Rules 701.102.28. Outside counsel is used seldom but may be needed in special / unique properties, for example as currently used in Walmart appeal to district court. Smaller cases usually handled by the Bremer County Attorney and Bremer County Assessor's Office.

Motion By: Meihost to approve use of outside counsel for the Board of Review as recommended by the Bremer County Attorney's Office.

Second: Krebsbach

Discussion among units.

Roll call vote was taken as follows with members present and the motion passed unanimously.

Board of Education

Denver CSD, Krebsbach

Aye

Janesville CSD, Tracy Meyer

Aye

Board of Education vote

Aye

Board of Supervisors

District 1, Kammeyer

Aye

District 3, Hildebrandt

Aye

Board of Supervisors vote

Aye

Mayors

Denver, Rodney Diercks

Aye

Frederika, Duane Meihost

Aye

Plainfield, Tom Geise

Aye

Readlyn, Dan Wedemeier

Aye

Sumner, Brian Bockhaus

Aye

Tripoli, Daniel Kalkbrenner

Aye

Waverly, Mark Anderson

Aye

Mayors vote

Aye

Hildebrandt asked if there was any other business or questions.

Hildebrandt asked for motion to adjourn.

Motion By: Krebsbach to adjourn

Second: Meyer

All ayes, Motion carried to adjourn at 4:45 p.m.

Dewey L. Hildebrandt Date: 3/5/2024
Dewey Hildebrandt, Vice-Chairman
Bremer County Conference Board

Aaron V. Betts Date: 3-5-24
Aaron V. Betts, Clerk
Bremer County Assessor

Approved at Conference Board meeting:

AvB Date: 2-5-25
Clerk initials

